

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

HARADA

Group Art Unit: 3661

Application No.: 10/728,749

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: December 8, 2003

Attorney Dkt. No.: 8215.136

For: DRIVE SYSTEM CHANGING DEVICE AND METHOD/PROGRAM THEREOF

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

March 1, 2005

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the information item(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each item(s) is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the item(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. However, Applicant reserves the right to remove references from the prior art to the extent permitted by it's claim to foreign priority and dated invention.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application, OR (c) accompanies a Request for Continued Examination. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application. A copy of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.
- 3. A copy of the U.S. patents and/or US patent publications are not provided because this application has been filed after June 30, 2003. *See* 37 CFR 1.491(b).

Respectfully submitted,

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Sheet 1 of <u>1</u> FORM PTO/SB/08 (08-00) ATTY DOCKET NO. APPLICATION NO. Substitute for form 1449/PTO 8215.136 10/728,749 US DEPT. OF COMMERCE *ز*د **PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE** INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary) APPLICANT(S) HARADA FILING DATE **GROUP** December 8, 2003 3661 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS SUB **EXAMINER CLASS** INITIAL DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE NAME CLASS 4,681,185 6/21/1987 HOERNIG et al. US 2002/0153770 A1 10/24/2002 MATSUNO et al. SHIMADA US 2002/0032512 A1 3/14/2002 FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS SUB DATE COUNTRY CLASS CLASS DOCUMENT NUMBER 2/13/2003 **GERMANY** DE 101 35 020 A1 EP 1 203 687 A1 5/8/2002 **EUROPE** OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

Examiner:

Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.